

2012 Primary and General Election Calendar

Dates are based on current law. Calendar is subject to change. Numerical statutes reference the S.C. Code of Laws (e.g., 7-5-120 references Title 7, Chapter 5, Section 120).

Date	Event	Statutes
August 23, 2011	First day on which 16 & 17 year-olds that turn 18 on or before the November 6, 2012, General Election may begin registering to vote. These voters may participate in the Presidential Primaries and June Primaries and Runoffs.	7-5-180
November 1	Republican Party must certify candidates to the SEC no later than this date.	7-13-352
December 15	Democratic Party must certify candidates to the SEC no later than this date.	7-13-352
November 22	First public notice of Republican PPP and polling place locations to be published no later than this date in newspaper of general circulation in the county.	7-13-35
December 6	Second public notice of Republican PPP to be published no later than this date.	7-13-35
December 7	Republican party may submit list of prospective poll managers to county election commissions no later than this date.	7-13-72
December 7	Deadline to mail absentee ballots to military and overseas citizens for the Republican Primary.	7-15-400
December 21	Last day to register to vote in January 21 Republican PPP.	7-5-150
December 30 (tentative)	First public notice of Democratic PPP and polling place locations to be published no later than this date in newspaper of general circulation in the county.	7-13-35
January 13, 2012 (tentative)	Second public notice of Democratic PPP to be published no later than this date.	7-13-35
January 14 (tentative)	Democratic party may submit list of prospective poll managers to county election commissions no later than this date.	7-13-72
January 14 (tentative)	Deadline to mail absentee ballots to military and overseas citizens for the Democratic Primary.	7-15-400
January 21	Republican Presidential Preference Primary	7-11-20
January 28 (tentative)	Last day to register to vote in February 28 Democratic PPP.	7-5-150
February 28 (tentative)	Democratic Presidential Preference Primary (date subject to change)	7-11-20
March 2	Advertisement to be placed by county party chairman on notice of candidate filing.	7-13-45

March 16, 12:00 noon	<p>Filing opens for party primary and convention candidates for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - U.S. House of Representatives - State Senate - State House of Representatives - multi-county district offices - solicitor (circuits 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16) - countywide and less than countywide offices <p>Candidates file proper forms including Statement of Intention of Candidacy (SIC) with their political party. SIC available at www.scvotes.org</p>	<p>7-11-15 7-11-210 7-11-220</p>
March 30, 12:00 noon	Filing closes.	7-11-15
March 31	Last day for political parties to hold county conventions.	7-9-70
April 9	All parties must submit SIC to county or State Election Commission. Political parties holding primaries must also certify candidates to appropriate election commission.	7-11-15 7-13-40
April 13	First public notice of primary and polling place locations to be published no later than this date in newspaper of general circulation in county.	7-13-35
April 27	Second public notice of primary to be published two weeks after first notice (no later than this date.)	7-13-35
not later than April 28	Last day to mail absentee ballots to military and overseas citizens.	7-15-405
not later than April 28	Political parties may submit list of prospective primary poll managers to county election commission.	7-13-72
May 12	Last day to register to vote in June 12 Primary Election.	7-5-150
May 15	Last day for political parties to hold state conventions.	7-9-100
June 11, 9:00 a.m.	Absentee voter information becomes public.	7-15-330
June 12	State Primary.	7-13-40 7-13-60
June 14	County Election Commission meets before 1:00 p.m. to canvass votes and declare results. CEC must certify results to SEC no later than noon, June 17.	7-17-510
June 15	Board of State Canvassers meets to canvass vote and declare results of primaries for federal, state and multi-county offices.	7-17-510
June 18, 12:00 noon	Deadline for filing protest of election with appropriate party officials.	7-17-520 7-17-560
June 21	Protest hearings held by appropriate party executive committee.	7-17-530 7-17-570
June 22, 3:00 p.m.	Deadline for notice of appeal to the State Executive Committee from decisions by county executive committee.	7-17-540
June 23, 12:00 noon	Deadline for State Executive Committee to hear appeals.	7-17-550

June 26	Primary runoff (if required) NOTE: Certification and protest procedures for run-offs follow same time frame as above.	7-13-40
July 16, 12: 00 noon	Last day for submission of petitions to appropriate election official for name to be placed on November 2 General Election ballot.	7-13-351
August 15, 12:00 noon	a) Petition candidates must be certified by this date. b) Questions for a referendum to be held during the General Election must be submitted to the county election commission by this date.	7-13-351 7-13-355
August 15, 12:00 noon	Last day for political parties to certify candidates to appropriate election commission.	7-13-350
August 15, 12:00 noon	Last day to file for nonpartisan offices that file by Statement of Intention of Candidacy including school board, watershed, and municipal offices.	7-13-352
September 7	First public notice of November 6 General Election to be published no later than this date in newspaper of general circulation in county.	7-13-35
September 21	Second public notice of November 6 General Election to be published two weeks after first notice (no later than this date).	7-13-35
not later than September 22	Last day to mail absentee ballots to military and overseas citizens.	7-15-405
October 6	Last date to register to vote in November 6 General Election.	7-5-150
November 5, 9:00 a.m.	Absentee voter information becomes public.	7-13-330
November 6	General Election.	7-13-10 7-13-60
November 7	Deadline for county election commissions to transmit results via online computer system to State Election Commission	7-13-1160
November 9	County election commissions to organize no later than 1:00 p.m. to hear provisional ballots and canvass votes.	7-17-10
November 10, 12:00 noon	Deadline for county election commissions to certify results and issue statements of returns to be transmitted to the State Election Commission.	7-17-20
November 14, 12:00 noon	Deadline for filing protests of county or less than countywide elections with county election commissions.	7-17-30
Tentative: November 14	State Board of Canvassers meets to certify all offices and questions from the General Election. Protests to the State Board of Canvassers for federal, state or multi-county offices must be filed by noon, the fifth day following State Board certification.	7-17-220 7-17-260
November 19	Protest hearings held by county election commissions for countywide or less than countywide elections.	7-17-50
November 26, 12:00 noon	Deadline to file appeal of county board decision to State Board. Written and electronic transcript of protest hearing	7-17-60 7-17-50

	submitted to the State Board of Canvassers.	
December 10, 12:00 noon	Last day for State Board to hear appeals from November 19. State Board of Canvassers shall hear protests filed concerning federal, state or multi-county offices certified by the State Board not earlier than the fifth nor later than the 25th day following the date the protest was filed.	7-17-70 7-17-270

EVERY VOTE MATTERS.
EVERY VOTE COUNTS.

**November 6, 2012 General Election
Certification and Protest Schedule**

County Election Commission

Date	Event	Statutes
November 6	General Election	7-13-10
November 9	County election commission, serving as the county board of canvassers, meets to canvass and certify election results.	7-17-20
November 14 12:00 noon	Protests of countywide and less than countywide offices are filed with the county board of canvassers.	7-17-30
November 19	Protest hearings heard by county board of canvassers.	7-17-50
November 26 12:00 noon	Written and electronic transcript of protest hearing submitted to the State Board of Canvassers.	7-17-50
November 26 12:00 noon	Deadline to file appeals with the State Board of Canvassers from decisions of the county boards.	7-17-60

**November 6, 2012 General Election
Certification, Appeal and Protest Schedule**

State Election Commission

Date	Event	Statutes
Tentative: November 14	State Election Commission, serving as the Board of State Canvassers, meets to canvass and certify the votes for all races.	7-17-220
November 19 12:00 noon	Deadline to file protests for federal, statewide, State House of Representatives and multi-county offices with the State Board.	7-17-260
November 26 12:00 noon	Deadline to file appeals with the State Board of Canvassers from decisions of the county boards.	7-17-60
Not later than December 10	State Board hears appeals.	7-17-70
Not later than December 14	State Board hears protests.	7-17-270

2012 Statement of Intention of Candidacy Timeline

- State Senate
- State House of Representatives
- Countywide offices
- Less-than-countywide offices

Candidates file with the county party in their county of residence.

March 16, Noon Filing opens for party primary and convention candidates. Candidates file proper forms including Statement of Intention of Candidacy (SIC) with their county political party (7-11-15, 7-11-210, 7-11-220, 7-13-45). SIC available at www.scvotes.org

At the time of filing, one copy of the SIC is given to the candidate, and one copy is kept by the county party.

March 30, Noon Filing closes. Deadline to submit copy of the SIC to the state party along with applicable filing fees.

**Tentative:
April 9** County party must file SICs and certify candidates with county election commission.

**Tentative:
April 9** State party must transmit any filing fees and filing fee submission forms to the State Election Commission.

- U.S. House of Representatives
- Solicitor

Candidates file with the state political party.

March 16, Noon Filing opens for party primary and convention candidates. Candidates file proper forms including Statement of Intention of Candidacy (SIC) with their state political party (7-11-15, 7-11-210, 7-11-220, 7-13-45). SIC available at www.scvotes.org

At the time of filing, one copy of the SIC is given to the candidate, and one copy is kept by the state party.

March 30, Noon Filing closes.

**Tentative:
April 9** State party must file SICs and certify candidates with the State Election Commission along with any filing fees and filing fee submission forms.